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Appln. No.: 10/643,097  
Reply to Office action of January 17, 2007

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1(Currently Amended). A method of fabricating PTFE material comprising:  
    preparing a mixture of PTFE resin powder and a susceptor material;  
    feeding the mixture into a compaction zone to at least partially compact and shape  
the mixture; and  
    providing a continuous flow of the mixture from the compaction zone downstream  
to a separate heating zone and heating and sintering the mixture within the heating zone  
by exciting the susceptor material by application of wave energy and drawing a vacuum  
on the mixture within the heating zone while sintering the mixture to extract air from the  
mixture.

2(Cancelled).

3(Currently Amended). The method of claim 2-1 wherein the heating zone has an  
initial stage for preheating and finishing compaction of the mixture prior to sintering the  
mixture.

4(Currently Amended). The method of claim 2-1 including passing the sintered  
mixture through a cooling zone following the heating zone.

5(Original). The method of claim 1 including cutting the PTFE material while the  
mixture is at a temperature below a sintering temperature within the heating zone but  
above ambient temperature.

6(Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the mixture is compacted into a generally  
tubular form.

7(Original). The method of claim 1 wherein the mixture is heated by microwave  
energy.

8(Currently Amended). A method of fabricating a PTFE material, comprising:  
    preparing a mixture of PTFE resin powder and a susceptor material;  
    compacting the mixture; and  
    sintering the mixture by exciting the susceptor material with microwave energy  
and drawing a vacuum on the mixture during the sintering step to extract air from the  
mixture.

9(Cancelled).